

HOW does my neighborhood get started?

Requests for “Traffic Calming” consideration will be received by the City Public Works or Police Department. The city staff will determine the following support data for a specific street:

- The street’s functional classification
- The average daily traffic volume
- The average speed
- A description of the affected study area.

The requestor will be asked to provide:

- A written description of the citizen’s concerns
- A petition with signatures from the affected area
- A contact person/persons who represent the community concerns

WHO must sign the petition?

The petition requesting traffic calming consideration must be signed by at least 75 percent of the total occupied households on the proposed study street(s), as well as streets that have major access to the proposed study street.

WHO decides on the traffic calming plan?

Representatives from the study area, the homeowner’s association, the city council, local transportation staff, police, fire, rescue and City Public Works should develop the traffic calming plan. Once a plan is developed, it should be presented to citizens at a public meeting. If there is community support for the plan, the City Council must approve the final plan and determine how it will be funded.

For more Information

Public Works Dept.
(540) 434-5928

Police Department
(540) 434-2545

Detailed information of the city Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program and additional materials are available at the Department of Public Works or at our website

www.harrisonburgva.gov/trafficcalming

Also, the following are available:

- Neighborhood Speed Watch Program

Neighborhood
Traffic
Calming



Harrisonburg
The City With The Planned Future

City of Harrisonburg's Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program

IF you're concerned about safety on your residential street, you're not alone. In recent years, more and more communities are seeking solutions to combat the increased cut-through traffic, truck traffic and speeding on their neighborhood streets.

This brochure answers basic questions about Harrisonburg's Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program.

WHAT is the purpose of traffic calming?

The purpose of "Traffic Calming" is to address speeding and cut-through conditions in residential neighborhoods on streets classified as local or residential roads. "Traffic Calming" focuses on slowing traffic without restricting movement. Certain collector streets that have many of the characteristics of local residential streets may also qualify for "Traffic Calming" measures.

IS any road a candidate for traffic calming?

Harrisonburg's traffic calming program is designed only for those residential streets that provide direct access to residences or mobility within the neighborhood.

The program applies only to accepted city streets. It does not apply to high-speed, high-volume roads.

WHAT are the criteria to be considered for traffic calming?

A residential street is eligible for traffic calming consideration provided the speed limit is 25 mph or less and a speed study shows that the average speed is at least 10 mph over the speed limit.

WHEN traffic calming is warranted, the following options are listed in the order that they will be implemented: community awareness, education, enforcement, less expensive non-physical devices and physical devices.

Increasing community awareness about the problem is an important first step. City staff is available to speak to homeowner associations about traffic calming measures, and to help raise awareness about advantages, disadvantages, approximate costs and funding options.

In addition, local police can assist the community with stepped-up enforcement efforts before any traffic calming measures are implemented. A less expensive option could be to narrow the travel lanes with pavement markings.



Also, the following should be considered:

1. Education of motorists by providing information concerning the safety concerns for travel through neighborhoods. Conducting origin and destination studies may be an effective means of informing the motorists of the concerns of the neighborhood.
2. Enforcement: Consider increased enforcement of existing speed limits. Due to limited staff, consideration may be given to Neighborhood Speed Watch Program. More info at: www.harrisonburgva.gov/trafficcalming.
3. Increased Penalties: Requesting higher penalties for speeding in specific areas. Neighborhoods must voluntarily request the increased penalties and understand the penalty applies to everyone, including those who live in the neighborhood.